NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

PUBLISHED BY WILLIAM NICHOLS, ROGERS' BUILDINGS, CONGRESS STREET, BOSTON.—THOMAS G. FESSENDEN, EDITOR.

VOL. III. SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 1824. No. 5.

From Memoirs of the Board of Agriculture of the State of New-York, Vol. II. page 161.

ON THE CULTIVATION OF LIVE FENCES.

[BY GEORGE TIBBITS, *of Rensallaer.*]

To Jesse Buel, Esq.

DEAR SIR,—I have no better apology to make, than that of forgetfulness, and numerous individual avocations, for not sooner attending to the very polite invitation of the Albany Agricultural Society, requesting me "to favour them with a concise communication upon the cultivation of live fences."

The attempts which I have made at cultivating live fences, have been almost exclusively confined to the different varieties of thorn; those common to our own country; the cockspur thorn of Maryland; and a short piece of the English white thorn; a part of them with ditches, but the larger proportion without; and I give the preference to those without ditches, where the ground is not wet.

My experiments have convinced me, that it is useless to attempt making a thorn fence upon a dry, loose, sandy soil, like our pine plains, or on loose, dry, sand gravel soil. These soils are not congenial to the growth of thorns; we never see any of our natural thorns growing wild upon them. Thorns are very liable to be thrown out of ground when young, by frost, if set in a damp, cold, spongy, clay soil; swamps are too wet for them, and on these kinds of ground, ditches are necessary. Thorns do well upon any of the varieties of loam; on a strong rich loam, inclining to clay they do best.

Process of raising the plants.

Gather the haws at any time in the fall, when ripe, lay them in an oblong heap, or ridge in the nursery or garden, mixed with a little earth; turn this heap in the spring following, and several times more in the course of the summer and succeeding fall, that they may have an equal exposure to the weather and frost; and as soon as the frost is out of the ground the succeeding spring, (having laid in the heap over two winters and one summer,) strew them evenly with a spade upon a bed or beds, which shall have been previously spaded and raked smooth for that purpose. It is better to sow them thick; half a bushel of haws, when green, may be a suitable quantity for a bed four by fourteen feet; cover them, not to exceed a quarter of an inch, and this is done best with a corn riddle, as the earth can be sifted over them more evenly than by a spade, or in any other way. They will come up directly; keep them free from grass and weeds. They may be expected to grow to the height of two or three feet the first year, (if the land is good, which it ought to be,) and the most of them will be large enough to plant in the hedge in the fall or succeeding spring, and the spring, for planting them, is to be preferred. The small plants may be re-set in the nursery and taken up in the fall or succeeding spring to supply vacancies in the lines of hedges set out the spring before, or set in new lines of fences.

It is indispensable, that plants put in live fences, whether with or without a ditch, should bekept free from weeds and grass for at lea st the three first years, otherwise they become stunted, mildewed, and die, or have a very unequal and slow growth, and never make toierable fences. They are also to be protected against cattle of all kinds; cattle, horses, and sheep, would bite off and tread them down; hogs would root them up. They must, therefore, have a fence upon both sides of some kind, sufficiently strong and tight, however, to exclude animals of all kinds until they become a strong fence of themselves, which may require from six to ten years.

To save the expense of these two fences, it is well worth the consideration of the person disposed to cultivate live fences, whether he will not dispense with turning cattle or hogs into a field which he intends to enclose with a live fence, around which there may be standing a dead fence, which may last until his live fence is grown. If this should be his determination, he will the year preceding that in which he plants his thorns, cultivate a piece of land eight feet broad, or thereabouts, around on the inside of the old fence, with potatoes, and with manure make it as nearly equally rich in every part as practicable, that the thorns may grow equally fast, and be equally strong.

As soon as convenient, in the spring, plough and harrow this land again, then strike a deep furrow where it is intended the live fence shall stand, which ought to be in the centre, in order that the grass and weeds may be kept down, with the assistance of the plough and one horse harrow; clear out this furrow with the spade, and by a line set for that purpose, make one side or edge straight and even; take up the plants from the nursery, cut off the top so as to leave of the plant growing above ground about five inches; clear the root of its lateral branches, cut off the tap root, leaving it eight or nine inches long; the whole plant, top and root, will be about fourteen inches long; lay or set the plant in the furrow, leaning on the side which has been made straight and even by the line, so that a little more than the root shall be covered when the dirt is hauled in; put the plants five inches apart in the row, haul in the dirt with a spade or hoe, and tread it down, taking care that the plants remain in their places at five inches apart in the row, and the tops all standing in a line as straight as possible. And, thereafter, with the plough, one-horse harrow, and hoe, for the three succeeding years at least, keep the plants free from grass and weeds, and raise the land somewhat towards the plants.

The plants may be taken up, in the nursery, at any leisure time in the fall, after the leaves drop, or early in the spring, before they leave out again, and as they are trimmed they should be laid in the trench, covered with dirt, and trodden down. They will remain perfectly safe and green, until taken up to set in hedges; and it is advisable, if convenient, that they be placed in trenches along the parcel of land prepared for setting the hedge, near where they are to be set, and from which they can be taken as they are wanted to set.

Plants, when set in hedges, should all of them be as nearly of the same size as possible, and if there is any difference, let the larger be set by themselves, and the less by themselves, and not alternately a small and a large one, for if so placed, the less are stunted or destroyed by the large, and the hedge becomes open or of unequal strength. If the land is good, the plants may be expected to grow the first year from two to three feet. The line should be examined the succeeding spring, and where any of the plants are dead, their place should be supplied with the largest and thriftiest plants from the nursery; and in three or four years, the plants will have grown to the height of seven to ten feet, provided they are not cropped or cut off. From reading, and advice of persons who I supposed understood this business much better than I did, I let mine run up to this height without cropping, and then performed upon them an operation called splashing. This is done by cutting off about every other plant six inches from the ground, trimming off with a bill-book all the limbs from the remainder of the plants, making stakes from a part of those cut out, sticking those stakes at about two feet from each other along the line; cut the plants left standing a little on one side, six inches from the ground also, wind them in between the stakes, in a reclining position, and so that the tops may be about four feet from the ground; then by two withes, made also of the plants which had been cut out and run along the tops of the stakes, the whole is secured together and held stedfast in their places.

The plants sprouted up again from the bottom, and those bent among the stakes sent out numerous lateral branches, and after two years, the most of them became a sufficient fence against cattle, horses, and sheep, but not a safe fence against hogs. After splashing, to prevent them from running up and becoming thin at bottom, the top is to be trimmed every year, which may be done in the month of August, with a pair of hedge shears, or in the fall, after the leaves drop, but if left for several years, this work is more easily done with a bill-hook.

A man will splash ten to fourteen rods in a day, and will trim off the tops of at least fifty in a day, if it is done every year, but if left for several years, until the plants become large, it will take him much longer.

I am of opinion, however, that I might have been saved the expense of splashing altogether, by running over the hedges every year with a pair of hedge shears, and cutting them off flat at top the first year, within about six inches of the ground, and in every succeeding year, leaving not more than six to nine inches of the last year's growth; and that the hedges would have been equally good, if not better, and would have been at maturity as soon as by the method pursued.

Green sward land is to be preferred in constructing live fences, with ditches; the ditch should be four feet broad at top, one foot at bottom, and two and a half deep. A line, four rods long, is laid down in the direction of the

ditch, drawn tight and held by a stake at each end; the labourer holding his spade so as to preserve the angle of the ditch, cuts the turf the whole length of the line; he then takes up the turf in parcels about ten inches broad and eighteen long, turns it over and lays it six inches back of the line, and in order to lay the turf straight, the line should be taken up and moved back six inches, leaving a sarcement six inches broad between the ditch dug and the line of turf laid up. The first turf being laid up in this manner, the length of the line, beat off the top earth of the turf, so as to leave it rising, or somewhat higher on the side next the ditch; throw up some of the loose earth from the ditch, behind the turf; take up a convenient number of plants, not a larger number than will keep damp and fresh until covered, and which shall have been prepared in the same manner as those for ground hedges, and lay them at about ten inches from each other upon the sod, and so that about four inches of that part of the plant which grew above the ground shall remain out, and immediately cover them with the best earth from the ditch. This done the length of the line, proceed by laying on turf in like manner, and which being cut with the angle or slope of the ditch, will recline back in a like angle, and when raised about nine inches above the lower tier of plants, lay on another tier of plants, placing the upper row or tier of plants directly above the intervales in the lower tier; then finish the ditch, keeping the rich earth taken from the top of the ditch near the roots of the plants, and the cold earth taken from the bottom of the ditch on the back side, giving to the earth thrown out, the shape as near as practicable, of the ditch dug, if it was turned upside down, and the fence is done, excepting the after attentions required to keep the plants free from weeds and grass, and defending it, until grown, from animals, and splashing, or cropping the plants, in the manner of ground hedges. In live fences, with ditches, the grass and weeds can only be kept down with the hand, a process more dilatory than in fences without ditches, where it is done much more expeditiously with the plough, harrow, and hoe.

The yellow willow, and the alder, for wet lands, the honey locust, the beach, the elm, the apple and pear, as also the holly and red cedar, for dry lands, have been recommended. The willow is easiest propagated from slips; the locust, beach, elm, apple and pear, from the seeds, which grow immediately; the holly and cedar are also propagated from the seed, but, like the thorn, they do not vegetate until the second year, and are to be treated in every respect like the haws or seeds of the thorn. But, as the thorn was recommended to me as the best of all plants for live fences, I have made no attempts with any other.

The pyracanthia, a beautiful evergreen thorn, retaining its leaves through the winter, like the box, has also been recommended, and I now recollect to have raised the plants, from seeds obtained in Maryland, and to have planted a few rods of fence with them. They proved to be too tender a plant for our hard winters; the most of them were killed the first winter, and none of them held out over the second.

Live fences constitute much the larger proportion of all the fences in European countries, where fences of any kind are made for agricultural purposes. In some of them, France, Spain, & Italy, in particular, we are told they never had any fences of any kind for common agricultural purposes, or have learned to do without them altogether, excepting occasionally to enclose a garden, or some small piece of ground for some particular purpose, and these are made of a high stone or brick wall, laid in mortar, and more for the purpose of raising wall fruit, or excluding vagrants and thieves, than domestic animals.—From what causes this practice obtained in those countries, it is not very material to inquire.—Probably, however, with their full population and scarcity of timber, it was found less expensive to employ shepherds to take charge of their domestic animals, and in that way prevent them from destroying their crops, than to build fences of any kind.

In England, where nearly all their lands in cultivation are enclosed, live fences abound, and are said to be preferred. The climate of that country may be more favourable to their growth than this, and they certainly have the advantage in point of experience, in the price of their labour, in the value of their land, and the price of agricultural productions. The inducement to cultivate this kind of fence in that country is further enhanced, from the extravagant price of timber everywhere, and absence of stones in many places, with which to make dead fences; and emigrants from that country, in treating of live fences, do not seem to give to these particulars the considerations which they merit.

In this country we are universally in the habit of enclosing and dividing all our farms into fields with fences; and were induced to this practice probably from causes common, and perhaps unavoidable, in the settlement of all new countries, abounding in wood, and in herbage for cattle. At an early day, fences were cheaply made with wood cleared from the grounds intended for cultivation. It was found much cheaper to defend cultivated lands from the depredations of animals by fences made in that manner, than to have either the crops or cattle constantly watched by persons employed for that sole purpose. Whether this practice will continue, or be abandoned, must depend upon circumstances. Fences of any kind now have become an important item in the expenditure of the farmer, and an effort to do without them may be worthy of consideration.—The practice of fencing, however, has become so strongly fixed with all our habits, customs and laws, that even with less intrinsic merit, any attempt to do without, would probably prove vain and impracticable.

Earth or sod fences have lately been tried.—They are not found to answer the purpose; in our dry climate the sod is killed by long dearths; they fall down, or are broken down by cattle and hogs.

In districts or on farms abounding with stones, there will be no difficulty. But we have farms, and even extensive tracts of country, in which there are no stones suitable for walling; and where fencing timber has become scarce in those places, live fences appear to be the last and only resort.

I was induced to attempt the cultivation of live fences, in hope that, after acquiring the necessary knowledge by actual practice, they might be raised in this country with as much ease as they were said to be in England, and that even at the present price of land, of labour, and agricultural productions, they might be usefully and extensively cultivated.

In the years 1808, 9 and 10, I planted about two miles; two thirds of them, or thereabouts, became fences against cattle, horses and sheep, in from six to ten years. The remainder having been planted in soils and situations unfavourable to their growth, (being dry sand or gravel, or shaded, or damp clay,) were abandoned.

The length of time and attention required for them to become fences, rather than their direct cost, is a discouraging circumstance.—The expense, exclusive of protecting fences, may not exceed sixty to seventy-five cents per rod. The expense of protecting fences may or may not be incurred, according as the person growing them may or may not have old fences in suitable positions for their defence, or as it may be more or less convenient for him to dispense with the use of the field for animals in which they are growing. If, however, the two protecting fences are to be made, the expense of the live fence will be increased by the amount of their cost. Live fences, after they are grown, require trimming, that is, the top to be cut off annually, or they run up too high, and become thin at bottom, and the expense of trimming and keeping a live fence in order exceeds that of keeping an ordinary rail or board fence in repair. Some very unruly animals may possibly press through a good live fence, or some evil disposed persons, still more unruly, may break or cut their way through, rather than to go round fifty or one hundred rods. The consequence is a gap.—The gap must be forthwith secured by a dead fence of some sort, until it shall have filled by a new growth. Hurdles are made use of for that purpose in England. They are made with alders or willows, somewhat in the manner of crates for earthern ware, except that they are flat and straight, and worked into a stake or post at each end, which is driven into the ground to hold them up. It is much more difficult to mend a gap in a live fence than any other, as it requires attention and time for it to fill by a new growth.

A thrifty lot of chesnut timber on a farm is a most invaluable appendage. And having that, or any other kind of thrifty growing fencing timber, or a suitable quantity of loose stones, or even a good stone quarry within any reasonable distance, the possessor will hardly undertake the cultivation of live fences but under circumstances highly favourable. A good stone wall well set, is the best and often the cheapest fence that can be made, or is the cheapest in the long run. But where live fences (from the scarcity of timber and stones) have become indispensable, or likely soon to become so, they ought to be set about before the old stock of fencing timber is entirely gone. Any one can make a short piece fifty or a hundred rods, and by doing so will acquire as well a knowledge of their usefulness, as of the manner of making and taking care of them, and will probably be saved the expense of making one, if not both the protecting fences. When a farm becomes destitute of fences, fencing timber and stones, it is a herculean task to fence it all at once, or within a short time, with live fences; and a crisis like this may be

anticipated by many, and will be avoided by every prudent farmer.

Stone walls set on wet spongy land are liable to fall. The land being soft, settles with the weight of the wall, or in its wet state is thrown up by frosts, and the wall falls. I prevent this by raising the land on which the wall stands, more or less, according as it is more or less wet; it is done mostly with the plough, by turning furrows towards each other before the wall is made, or towards the wall after it is made, most commonly the latter; for in the latter case, the round or poorest stones may be put into the bottom, where they will be held in place by the earth, turned and raised against them. The water courses should be in the last furrow on each side, & at three feet distance from the wall; the last furrow should be thrown on the first side next the wall, and the loose dirt cleared out & thrown up with the spade. A wall or half wall, protected in this manner, with suitable apertures at proper distances for the water to pass under it, seldom falls. Long and repeated trials have confirmed me in the usefulness of this practice. I do it as well on dry as damp land. The depth of the ditch adds that much to the actual height of the wall. The ditch, in all after ploughings, should be preserved, and which may be easily done by not turning furrows into it, but from it. I do the same with board fences, when I make them, and for like reasons: as no water can afterwards stand about the fences, they remain firm and secure. The additional expense is but a trifle, not over two, or at most and in worst places, three cents, and often not over one cent per rod.

If I have not given as favourable an account of live fences as was anticipated, I trust I have given, truly, impressions resulting from such experience as I have had.

I pray you to present my best regards to the gentlemen of the Society, and remain,

Most respectfully,
your obedient servant,
GEORGE TIBBITS.

P. S. The Maryland cockspur thorns have now haws upon them, which is quite at the service of any gentleman disposed to propagate live fences, and who will take the trouble of gathering them.

I should give the preference to the English white thorn: at the present I have none of them, but think it probable I may have them a year from this time.

WELL SPRINGS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AMERICAN FARMER.

Newbury, S. C. July 5, 1824.

SIR,—Permit me to communicate to you a new method of digging wells, which in a hilly country makes them, in my opinion, superior to springs.

The method occurred to me some years ago, and I have often spoken of it as practicable, but I have never heard of its being reduced to practice until lately. Mr. John Rhoden, of Chester, I am informed has in the course of the last year made the attempt, and completely succeeded.

Mr. Rhoden had a well on the side of a steep hill, the cleaning and repairing of which had cost him much trouble and expense, to little purpose. At length it occurred to him that if he could make a horizontal opening into it from the side of the hill, on a level with the vein, that he might thus be enabled to procure a running stream from the well, such as is found at springs, and gain an easy access to it, for the purpose of cleaning it out whenever it might become necessary. When the work was set about, it was accomplished in a few days, and he has now, out of his well, an excellent spring; easy to be cleaned out, with a very convenient milk-house.

The plan which had previously suggested itself to me, and which I still think is even superior to Mr. Rhoden's, is this—select a steep hill, (whose declivity should be if possible, 45 degrees,) and dig down, opening out as you go in the form of a ditch, from the inner wall of the well, to the side of the hill, and wheeling off the dirt in a barrow, until you come to the vein. Or make, in the first place, a horizontal opening, such as Mr. Rhoden did, in the vein, instead of digging perpendicularly as is usual.

The first method proposed may at first view appear to involve a great deal of labour; but I am certain that on a hill declining at the rate of 45 or even 50 or 60 degrees, a well can be sooner dug, with less labour, with greater facilities for blowing rock, greater security againt damp, and more certainty of finding a vein than a common well.

It can be sooner dug and with less labour, for in the first place the dirt to be removed is but about three times as great, as will be procured by only making a diagram of the hill; and in the second place, instead of having to haul up the dirt by a windlass, at the great risk of the well digger, and with much labour and loss of time, it can be wheeled off along the level of the ditch, by a common hand as fast as it is dug.

As to this method affording greater facilities for blowing rocks, and greater security against noxious damps, than the common method; this is so apparent as to require no proof.

It is attended with a greater certainty of finding water, because in the common method unless a vein is found within the diameter of your well, you may continue to dig without success, although numerous veins may be running within a small distance of you. But in the method I propose you will have a chance for every vein which runs from the outside of the hill to the inside of the well, for your ditch must traverse the whole of them.

I believe the second method I have proposed has nearly as many advantages as the first, and some others: but these must suggest themselves at the first view, and require no elucidation.

An excellent milk-house may be easily made in the excavation, under either method.

I will not dilate upon the advantages of this method of digging wells. Allow me only to reiterate the superior facilities it affords for keeping them in order.

Many tracts of land, whereon there are no springs, lose half their value; because few would be willing to settle them, and undergo the trouble and inconvenience of watering their whole stock from a well. But my method (or rather Mr. Rhoden's) would afford a running stream from the well for that purpose.

Your's, most respectfully,
JOB JOHNSTON.

From the Vermont Aurora.

MR. SMALL—By inserting the following fact in the Aurora, you will oblige a subscriber.

Uncommon growth of Rye.—While employed in cutting a piece of Winter Wheat, on the farm of Mr. John White, in Panton, I observed an uncommon bunch of Rye, which I carefully examined, and found that it sprung from a single kernel; the number of heads was *ninety-three*, and the number of kernels was *five thousand nine hundred and one*, making an average of more than sixty-three kernels to a head.

Water Proof Muslin.—Mr. Mackintosh, an eminent muslin manufacturer, has been exhibiting in London, specimens of water proof muslin, and water proof fabrics of various descriptions. He lays two breadths together, and interposes a thin lamina of caoulchouc, (gum elastic, or India rubber,) dissolved in oil of turpentine. The muslins thus prepared are light, not distinguishable from others; they wash well; and they can be afforded at an inconsiderable advance price. Silks, woollens, linens, &c. are treated in like manner, and even leather. Of course, such a discovery is of very extensive application, and of great importance to commerce and the arts.

A Plague remedied.—One of the greatest inconveniences in our climate, at this season of the year, is occasioned by the ants getting into our dressed provisions, which makes them generally very disgusting, particularly to delicate persons, and precludes the advantage of the use of cold meats, which are most agreeable to many in warm weather. The method is extremely simple, convenient, and safe. Take a wine glass, well cleaned, and place it in your safe upside down, and put the dish or plate which contains your meat on it. It may be here balanced with the greatest safety, and I will warrant that it will be free from ants, provided you take care that the meat and dish be free from them when you put it in that situation.

The above mentioned remedy was discovered by a sufferer, after trying all the common remedies.—*Sav. Georgian.*

Metheglin is made in the following manner:—Put so much new honey into spring water, that when the honey is dissolved, an egg will not sink to the bottom. Boil the liquor for an hour. When cool, barrel it up, adding a spoonful of yeast to ferment it. Some add ginger half an ounce to a barrel, and as much cloves and mace; but I have it very good without any spices. One hundred weight of honey will make a barrel of metheglin, as strong as good wine. I once had a barrel made with 90 pounds of honey. After fermenting and fining, it was an excellent liquor; some part of which I kept bottled several years; it loses the honey taste by age, and grows lighter coloured: but on the whole it does not improve by age, like some liquors.—*Deane's N. E. Farmer.*

A Remedy for Burns.—A friend informs us, that equal parts of lime-water and sweet oil mixed and incorporated, will form a kind of soap, which makes an excellent application for burns. He says it is very efficacious in taking out the inflammation, as well as for healing the wounds caused either by burns or scalds. [ED.

From the American Farmer.

On the Uses of Pyroligneous Acid, read at the celebration of the birth day of Linnœus, at Flushing, on the 24th May, 1824.

It has been supposed by many, that Pyroligneous Acid, which some call the "Acid of Wood," is a recent discovery. Its uses, perhaps, have not been long known; but in a folio work on experimental philosophy, written by Glauber, the celebrated Dutch chemist, about two hundred years ago, it is not only particularly mentioned by the name of *Vinegar of Wood*, but directions are given how to prepare it, and engravings introduced of the apparatus used in its manufacture.

Glauber was not a professional man; but being in possession of an ample fortune, and extremely fond of chemical studies, he devoted most of his time and means to this pursuit. It does not, however, appear that he carried his experiments farther, as to this discovery, than to ascertain that its qualities resembled those of common vinegar.

In the year 1814, Professor Meineke, of Gottingen, seems to have first conceived the idea that the Vinegar of Wood possessed peculiar antiseptic principles, from which he was led to use it in the preservation of meat, and afterwards in the preparation of mummies.

Availing himself of Professor Meineke's studies, Mr. Stotze, an apothecary at Halle, made a variety of experiments, by which he so far verified his predecessor's discoveries and so completely purified the acid as to render it fit for the table, that he obtained a prize on that account from the Royal Society of Gottingen.

From this period down to 1818, the Vinegar of Wood was generally regarded as a distinct acid; but Fourcroy, and other French chemists, having analyzed it, they pronounced it to be the same as the *acetous* or common vinegar, differing only in the flavour. The name of Pyroligneous Acid has since been given to it from the circumstance of its being obtained by the destructive distillation.

In England and France the manufacture of this acid is carried on to a considerable extent, and is there used in families as a substitute for vinegar. When it first comes from the still, it is of a dark colour, possessing a strong acid, and slightly astringent taste, with an empyreumatic smell. After remaining at rest for some days, the substance, which causes the dark appearance, and which is of the qualities of tar, subsides, and the acid then resembles Madeira wine in colour, and is comparatively transparent.

Before Pyroligneous Acid, however, can be used for the table, it must be frequently distilled to free it from the volatile oil which occasions the peculiar flavour attending it in its original state. The most effectual method to render it pure is, to mix it with sulphuric acid, magnesia and common salt, when running it through the still. These frequent distillations increase its strength so much that it cannot be used for domestic purposes, until it is mixed with a large proportion of water. Some of the acid, thus purified, has lately been imported into this country, and is found to answer all the purposes to which vinegar is usually applied.

Pyroligneous acid is well known in Great Britain of late years, as an article of commerce. It is there distilled for the purpose of obtaining the acid to dye cloth, and the charcoal for manufacturing gunpowder, which is always in request. The common estimate is that a ton of nut wood yields about 100 gallons of acid, 400 lbs of charcoal, and 12 gallons of a tarry substance.

This acid is also extensively used, in this and other countries, in the preparation of white lead. The powerful manner in which it acts on the metal in its original state must always induce the manufacturers of this article to prefer it to all other acids.

It is likewise understood, that leather may be tanned by the Pyroligneous acid, in a much shorter period than by the ordinary process, and that the leather thus manufactured, is equal, if not superior to any imported.

But the most valuable use to which this acid may be applied, is that of curing meat of every description, so as to preserve it from flies, and from putrefaction in hot weather. It has been ascertained by innumerable experiments, that it contains the same properties of preserving animal matters as smoking them by wood does; and that the only difference in using it and drying by the present mode, is merely in the application. In the one case, the meat is acted on during the distillation of the acid while the wood is burning in the smoke house; in the other, the acid, already formed is applied by immersion or by the brush.

Since the experiments of Mr. Stotze, at Halle, several successful applications of the acid, in this way, have been noticed in the English journals. Two specimens of meat were, some time ago, exhibited at a meeting of the Philosophical Society, Whitehaven, which had been prepared with the acid on the 7th September, 1819. One of the pieces had been taken to the West Indies to try the effect of the climate, and the other was hung up at home. After the lapse of fifteen months, (i. e. January, 1821) they were tasted by all the members of the Society, and found to be perfectly sweet, fresh, and fit for use.

Our journals also have mentioned instances where the acid has been used in the preparation of meat, and the result has been equally satisfactory. But nothing has appeared of a positive nature in either country, by which the mode of applying it could be distinctly understood. In one instance, the acid was put into the tub after the meat had been sufficiently saturated with the pickle, and in another it was not applied until after it was removed from the tub, and had hung in the open air for a day or two. The quantity of the acid used, has likewise been differently estimated according to the different modes of preparation which have been adopted.

With the view of satisfying myself on the subject, I caused six pieces of beef usually selected for smoking, and weighing about 15 lbs. each, to be cured with salt, saltpetre, and sugar in the ordinary way, and when they had been about four weeks in the pickle, they were taken out and hung up for twenty-four hours; after which they were moistened by a brush, with nearly a quart of the acid. In a few days they had all the appearance of smoked beef, and, when cut in slices, no difference whatever could be discovered between them in flavour or taste. Some hams and tongues, prepared in the same manner, showed a similar result.

In point of economy, the difference in the two modes is very striking. The expense of smoking a hundred weight of meat, is 37½ cents; the cost of the acid for the same quantity, is only six cents. But what is of still greater importance is, that when meat returns from the smoke house, it generally weighs about a *third less* than when sent thither. Prepared with the acid, no diminution in the weight takes place; while the juices of the beef and hams, which are dried up by the fire of the smoke house, are entirely preserved in the new process.—Add to this, that in using the acid there is no danger of the meat being changed, or of its passing through the hands of persons who may not be altogether attentive to cleanliness—considerations which are of no small importance to those who are careful in regulating their household affairs.

Accompanying this communication is a piece of beef prepared by me about two months ago, and a part of the acid used by me on that occasion. The beef has been fully exposed during the whole of that period, and although the weather has not been so warm as is usual at this season, I have no doubt that it is unassailable by putrefaction or by flies in the hottest part of the year. When sliced and broiled, it relishes as well as the best beef steak.

The acid is in the same state in which it was when it first came from the still. It is divested of its colour by subsequent distillation; but as this deprives it of its essential oil, the cause of the smoky flavour given to the meat, any alteration in its present state must diminish that flavour, and probably, materially affect its antiseptic qualities; consequently render it unfit for curing meat.

I have been assured that fish may be preserved for any length of time by the Pyroligneous acid. This appears extremely probable. Salmon, shad, and herrings are cured in smoke houses in the same way that meat is cured, and there seems no doubt that the acid would produce a similar effect. It might also be used to preserve beef and pork for a considerable period, without the trouble and expense of salting.

GEO. HOUSTON.

New York, May 20, 1824.

Prom Nicholson's Philos. Journal, vol. xxii. p. 354.

Account of a well for preserving and filtering rain water for domestic purposes, where a supply of spring water was not easily to be obtained.

TO MR. NICHOLSON,

Sir,—You may, perhaps, deem the following account of filtering rain water well, which has been successfully tried here by the Earl of Caernarvon, not undeserving of notice in your valuable Journal. His lordship has lately erected on a dry gravelly eminence in his park, an ornamental circular building, consisting of a room and open colonades above, and apartments for cottagers upon the basement floor. Considerable discussion arose upon the mode of supplying them with water, from the depth to which it was necessary to sink, in order to obtain an effective well. My friend, Mr. John Loat, builder, of Clapham, who has furnished the plan, for the construction of the dome roof, mentioned to me a contrivance of

his father's to meet a similar difficulty, which had been attended with invariable success, and Lord Caernarvon immediately determined upon carrying it into execution.

Following Mr. Loat's instructions, we sunk two wells, 30 ft. deep by 4 ft. diameter each, which for greater perspicuity I shall call No. 1 and 2. They are a trifling distance asunder, and were carefully clayed, to prevent percolation into the surrounding soil, and lined with bricks in the usual manner. A well secured communication was made between the two wells, by a small leaden pipe inserted two feet from the bottom. All the pipes from the roof were directed into No. 1; and an oak floor, bored full of small holes, and supported upon posts, was laid in at No. 2, just above the pipe of communication. Upon this floor was first placed a stratum of well washed coarse gravel, then one of finer, next a stratum of coarse sand, and finally one of the finest sand we could procure, making altogether two feet in thickness of silicious substances. The water, which is received into No. 1, passses through the leaden pipe into No. 2, and filtrates by ascent through the strata of sand and gravel, the space below the level of the oak floor in both wells, acting as a cespool, receives all sediment. The pump is of course affixed in the filtering well. Both wells are covered up, but plenty of air is admitted to them, through apertures made for this purpose.

You will immediately perceive, that the merit of this plan consists altogether in the filtration by ascent, with a competent space under the apparatus. The interstices of the sand are thus never clogged, and its power is preserved unimpaired for an indefinite period. The well fully answers its intended purpose, and the water is altogether excellent. I have been tempted to submit this statement to you from a persuasion that there are few houses, which may not be made in this manner to supply excellent water in sufficient quantiy for domestic consumption; and that situations abound, where the filtrating well may be resorted to with equal comfort and advantage.

I am, Sir,
your obedient humble servant,
J. R. GOWAN.

Highclere, Newbury, Berks, April 1, 1809.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AMERICAN FARMER.

I will state to you an experiment made on a small piece of ground, which goes to establish the fact, that plastering clover *largely* at the time of turning it down and preparing it for a wheat crop, is by far the most advantageous to the crop, and much preferable to turning in clover, in the usual way and plastering on the surface, when the wheat is sowed, in the spring of the year. As I have stated in my last communication, the action of the plaster (thus excluded from atmospheric air) upon the clover, covered over, is instantaneous, and putridity is so certain as to cause considerable gas, which in its passage through the clod, impregnates it with all its manuring qualities, and the root of the plant shoots down and feeds on a bed of manure, &c. About four or five years ago, I purchased a small slip of land of Mr. William Patterson, in Baltimore county, a part of which was old field, used by him only as a sheep pasture, because it laid so far from the main body of his land that it was no object with him to better its condition. This ground was originally good and of a kind soil, such as is understood to be real plaster land, but from constant cultivation for many years (probably before he got it) had become quite exhausted, and produced what is commonly called poverty grass, so called from its being the meanest of all grasses, having very little vegetable substance in it, and is generally found on soils which have been impoverished by constant cultivation in the old fashioned way.

Three acres of this ground I enclosed in a field adjoining, and put in oats. In the fall of the year I gave it a good deep ploughing, first sowing two bushels of plaster to the acre on the poverty grass, which was turned under as soon in the spring as possible. I again ploughed it and harrowed it down; I then sowed it in oats, and with two bushels of plaster to the acre, and harrowed the oats and plaster in together, and sowed clover seed. I had, as may be expected, but a tolerable crop of oats from such poor ground; the clover took finely and flourished well during summer, and by the fall the ground had a good covering, which rotted on the ground during winter; (I permitted nothing to graze on it during winter or fall.) In the spring I again plastered it with the same quantity, making in all six bushels of plaster to the acre, in that short time. Wanting grass for my stock, I cut the next crop, which yielded more than a ton to the acre—the second crop was left on the ground as before. The following spring I again plastered it, and the clover was very good—this crop I turned down *en masse* in the fall, first putting about two bushels of plaster to the acre, at the time of ploughing under—it was then harrowed the same way it was ploughed, and sowed with wheat and harrowed in, and if the fly had not taken, it should have made a good crop of wheat. Last fall, in consequence of a large quantity of blue grass appearing, I ploughed it down, intending to put in corn this spring, (first sowing on the stubble and grass about two bushels of plaster to the acre) and if it is a good season, expect to make ten barrels of corn to the acre, with the assistance of plaster and ashes in the hill. I can aver that this spot of ground has had no manure except clover and plaster during the time.—This experiment has convinced me that real plaster land, although worn out, may be reclaimed in a very short time, by this simple process, and made to produce better than when in its original state; in fact, I am convinced by turning in clover and plaster in this way, you may in a short time, make the land too rich for wheat, and have a soil as deep as you can plough it. To effect this in a short time, you must be careful to suffer no stock of any kind to range over or graze on it—it is true that this mode of improvement requires patience, money, labour, and time, but in the end, when your soil is made, it will with care and attention, cost but little to keep it in good plight, and your crops in that state, will amply remunerate you. It is the wish of the writer to impress on the minds of every farmer, to plough his lands deep in the fall of the year, as the most certain method to improve waste grounds, and is the best preparation he can give it for a summer's crop; the ground being in a loose, broken state, absorbs during winter, all the rains and snows, which is of itself, *in my mind*, equal to a slight coat of manure.

G. W.

From the London Mechanic's Weekly Magazine.

ON DEAD LIME.

It has long been observed by lime burners, that if lime stone is imperfectly burnt in the first instance, no further exposure of it to fire will produce quick lime; but the philosopical chemists have doubted the truth of this observation. Mr. Vicat in a work however, which he has lately published upon mortar and stucco, has confirmed the observation of the lime burners. He found that in making quick lime in a small furnace, if the small pieces of lime stone which fell through the grate into the ash pit, before they were thoroughly burnt, were collected and again put in the fire, even for several successive times, quick lime was not obtained but a kind of lime technically called dead lime, which will not slake with water; but which upon being ground and made into a paste with water, differs from common mortar by setting under water. When chalk is burnt, and the lime left to fall into powder by long exposure to the air, and then made into a stiff paste with water, it sets very sensibly under water; so that the action of the air seems to produce a dead lime, similar to that produced by the incomplete burning of lime stone, as being neither pure quick lime, nor a complete carbonate of lime, but a kind of sub-carbonate, which possesses the new and useful property of setting under water.

Mr. Raucourt De Charleville observed the same effects to be produced as are described by Mr. Vicat. He also made another observation respecting the production of a cement which sets under water. He had prepared a mixture of quick lime and clay and left it dry; some of this was then broken into small pieces, and burnt on a heated cast iron plate; and another parcel in a small furnace, mixed with the charcoal used as fuel.

In these experiments it was observed that the pieces of this mixture of quick lime and clay, which were burnt on the heated plate, produced mortar that set under water; but those burnt mixed with charcoal, produced a mortar which did not set under water.

Mr. Clement, when he gave an account of a mineral found by Mr. Minard in France, and which was fit for the making of hydraulic mortar or Roman cement, stated to be Mr. Minard's opinion, that the cause of the Roman cement setting under water, was owing to a sub-carbonate of lime produced by the action of fire on the natural carbonate, as the chemists say, or in other words, to imperfect lime.

New method of making Jelly.—Press the juice from the fruit; add the proper proportion of sugar: and stir the juice and sugar until the sugar is completely melted:—put it into jars; and in twenty-four hours it will become of a proper consistence. By this means the trouble of boiling is avoided: and the jelly retains more completely the flavour of the fruit. Care should be taken to stir the mixture till it is completely melted; and fine sugar should be used.

[*N. Jersey Advocate.*

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 1824.

FARMER'S CALENDAR.

Seeds of various sorts are now daily ripening; care therefore must be taken to gather and dry them properly, for on good seeds all the future excellence of your crops depends; and if you have more than you want for your own use, the seedsman will either buy them of you, or exchange them for others. A good cultivator will very rarely be under the necessity of laying out money for seeds, but will usually save enough to make them a source of profit, besides supplying his own wants.

"As to the method of preserving seeds (says Deane's New-England Farmer) the dry kinds are best kept in their pods or outer coverings; but the seeds of all soft fruits, as cucumbers, melons, &c. must be cleansed from the pulp and mucilage which surround them; otherwise the rotting of these parts will corrupt the seeds.

"When seeds are gathered, it should always be done in dry weather; and then they should be hung up in bags in a dry room, so as to preserve them from air."

"The selection of seeds (according to the Domestic Encyclopædia) depends principally on a proper choice of grains and kernels, as well as roots, from the most vigorous vegetables, growing under our own inspection: for, though it be conjectured, that the constant cultivation of a particular plant from the same seed, and in the same soil, will at length cause it to degenerate, yet numerous well attested instances have occurred, in which the contrary effects have been evident. The more healthy stalks or stems should therefore be selected for bearing seeds; and such as attain maturity at the earliest period in the season, ought to be preferred, especially if they grow at a distance from weakly plants of the same species; lest fecundating farina of the latter be blown upon the stigmata of the former, and an inferior kind, or succession be produced.

"The proper time for gathering seeds is the period of their perfect maturity, which may be ascertained by the dryness of the stem; because when the latter begins to decay, it becomes 'bleached by the oxygen of the atmosphere,' and no further nourishment can then be conveyed to the ripe seed.

"Various expedients have been devised for the preservation of seeds; the most simple consists in secluding them from light and heat in the bowels of the earth; where they will retain their vegetative power for several years. Thus Dr Darwin mentions instances of mustard seed producing a crop on digging up soil where it had remained in a state of rest for many years, and 'as was believed *even for ages*.' In the same manner, the best cucumbers and melons are raised from seeds which are at least three or four years old; though some gardeners do not employ them till they have been kept ten or twelve years.*

It appears to be an opinion, which is settled among the best practical and scientific cultivators, that very little advantage, in common cases, is derived from changing seeds from one country or climate to another; and it is therefore best, as a general practice, for a cultivator to raise his seeds and roots on his own premises. This is the least troublesome, least expensive, most independent, and most profitable mode of management as regards that very important branch of rural economy.

FRUIT TREES. If, in looking over your orchard, you should happen to perceive any limbs over-burdened with fruit, you will pick off a part, or put props under the limbs, or both. In most cases, when you can possibly afford time, it will be best to pick off the supernumerary apples, peaches, &c. Mr Coxe says, "no error is more universal than an anxiety for early productiveness in an orchard. It is generally obtained at the expense of much eventual profit, and by a great diminution of the size and vigour of the trees; believing early fecundity to be injurious to the vigour and perfection of plants, I am always attentive to pluck from the trees these evidences of early maturity, in the first stages of their existence."

BUSHES. This is the right time of the year for destroying the bushes which infest your pastures. Wet weather is best for this purpose, because the sap vessels will continue open longer, and the sap will be discharged, the roots weakened, and eventually their power of producing new shoots will be annihilated. The same may be said of thistles, which should be cut in hot weather, before their seeds are ripe. Dr Deane observed that bushes which grow in clusters, as alder, and some other sorts, may be pulled up by oxen; and this is an effectual way to subdue them. The expense of it, I suppose, will not be more than that of cutting them twice would amount to."

A writer in the New England Farmer, vol. i. page 306, says in substance, that bushes in pastures are best destroyed by sowing plaster of Paris, at the rate of about one bushel an acre on land overrun with them. It should seem that the plaster gives growth and exuberance to clover and other grasses, and the bushes are thus checked, and eventually stifled and exterminated.

DISAGREEMENT OF PHILOSOPHERS. A friend of the Editor assures us, that the following assertion in our remarks on the subject of lightning rods (see N. E. Farmer vol. iii. page 17) is incorrect, viz. "charcoal is an excellent conductor of electricity," &c. and thinks it would have been more consonant with truth to have styled charcoal a perfect *non*-conductor. The communication we have mislaid, but we believe what we have stated is the substance of it. The article which contained the assertion, supposed by our correspondent to be erroneous, was quoted from the last Philadelphia edition of Dr Willich's Domestic Encyclopedia, with additions by T. Cooper, M. D. It gave an acconnt of improvements in conductors of lightning, suggested by Mr Robert Patterson of Philadelphia, for which he received the prize of a gold medal from the American Philosophical Society.

We have examined a number of authors on the subject of electricity, and they all agree in numbering charcoal among the conductors of that fluid. The Encyclopedia Brittanica, Gregory's Dictionary of Arts, and Nicholson's Encyclopedia assure us that charcoal is an excellent conductor of electricity. The last mentioned work has the following passage. "It is found that black lead is an excellent aid both to affix as a sharp point to the apex [of the lightning rods] and to be laid a few feet deep in the earth, where it is moist *and surrounded by a bed of charcoal*."

There is, however, a passage in Rees' Encyclopedia (Art. *Conductors*) which would seem in some degree to favour the opinion of our correspondent. It is as follows: "The conducting power of charcoal is *very equivocal; for some pieces of it will hardly conduct it at all*, and others will suffer the passage of the electric fluid over their surface only, and not through their substance. The reason of this difference is not quite understood; but it seems owing to the degree of heat that is applied in the process of making them."

Pulverized charcoal is, we believe, very retentive of moisture, and we have no doubt that when it is damp, as we conceive it always will be if buried to any considerable depth in the ground, it will prove a safe conductor of lightning. The water which it will retain in that situation, will, we have no doubt, give it a power of conducting the electrical fluid, by no means equivocal. Such is our opinion; but we may be in an error, and if so should be happy in being corrected by our correspondent alluded to, or by any other person who will be so good as to point out our mistake.

LA FAYETTE. On the 24th inst. the Friend of America, the heroic Advocate of Liberty, the Favourite of Washington, the Man to whom all honour, short of adoration, is due from every Columbian Freeman, made his public entrance into this city. An attempt to enumerate the modes by which the citizens of this Metropolis and the inhabitants of its vicinage endeavoured to manifest that gratitude and affection for Columbia's Benefactor, which glowed in every bosom, sparkled in every eye, and frequently pealed in huzzas from every tongue, would be as unavailing as an essay to count the flowers of spring, or the leaves of autumn. We shall not undertake even a sketch of the proceedings, as we could neither do justice to the occasion, nor give so full a description of the processions, ceremonies, addresses, &c. &c. as has already appeared in our papers which are principally devoted to recording the events of the day. We must therefore confine ourselves to the following Address by the Hon. Mr QUINCY, Mayor of this city, which was delivered at the Roxbury border, previous to the entrance of General LA FAYETTE within the limits of the City; and the General's Reply.

(Mr Quincy's Address)

SIR—The citizens of Boston welcome you on your return to the United States; mindful of your early zeal in the cause of American Independence, grateful for your distinguished share in the perils and glories of its achievement. When, urged by a generous sympathy, you first landed on these shores, you found a people engaged in an arduous and eventful struggle for liberty with apparently inadequate means, and amidst dubious omens. After the lapse of nearly half a century, you find the same people prosperous beyond all hope and precedent—their liberty secure—sitting in its strength—without fear and without reproach.

In your youth you joined the standard of Three millions of people, raised in an unequal and uncertain conflict. In your advanced age you return and are met by Ten Millions of People, their descendants, whose hearts throng hither to greet your approach and to rejoice in it.

---

* For further remarks on the use of old and new seeds, see New England Farmer, vol. i. page 225.

This is not the movement of a turbulent populace excited by the fresh laurels of some recent conqueror. It is a grave, moral, intellectual impulse.

A whole people in the enjoyment of freedom as perfect as the condition of our nature permits, recur with gratitude, increasing with the daily increasing sense of their blessings, to the memory of those, who, by their labours, and in their blood, laid the foundation of our liberties.

Your name, Sir,—the name of LA FAYETTE,—is associated with the most perilous and most glorious periods of our Revolution,—with the imperishable names of WASHINGTON, and of that numerous host of Heroes which adorn the proudest archives of American history, and are engraven in indelible traces on the hearts of the whole American people.

Accept, then, Sir, in the sincere spirit in which it is offered, this simple tribute to your virtues.

Again, Sir, the citizens of Boston bid you welcome to the cradle of American Independence, and to scenes consecrated with the blood shed by the earliest martyrs in its cause.

(To which the General made the following reply)

To the Mayor and People of Boston—

The emotions of love and gratitude, which I have been accustomed to feel on my entering this city, have ever mingled with a sense of religious reverence for the cradle of American, and let us hope it will be hereafter said, of universal liberty.

What must be, Sir, my feelings, at the blessed moment, when, after so long an absence, I find myself surrounded by the good citizens of Boston; when I am so affectionately, so honourably welcomed, not only by old friends, but by several successive generations;—when I can witness the prosperity, the immense improvements, that have been the just reward of a noble struggle, virtuous morals, and truly republican institutions.

I beg of you, Mr. Mayor, gentlemen of the City Council, and all of you, beloved citizens of Boston, to accept the respectful and warm thanks of a heart, which has for nearly half a century been particularly devoted to your illustrious city.

An Impostor—Late U. S. papers speak of an impostor, or rather a madman, who calls himself the son of Louis XVI, and signs all his letters, "Charles X. king of France and duke of Navarre." We find in the Times of to-day a letter written at Portsmouth, June 29, and signed N. Persat, Knight of the Legion of Honour, and ex-captain of Cavalry. This Frenchman declares that the unhappy maniac in question is his own brother. "But (says he) I like better that the world should think him insane, than have it supposed that my family contains such an abominable impostor." There are several authentic particulars of this pretended Charles X.—Victor Persat was born in 1790, at Eanezet, in the department of Puy-de-Dome; he entered into the service in 1807, and after having passed several years in the 25th and 20th regiments of cavalry, he was transferred to the guard of the usurper. A wound in the head, and the cold of the fatal campaign of Moscow, deranged him. He was put upon half pay, and returned to his family in 1816. It took him but three years to dissipate all his fortune. Being one day shooting, the gensdarmes commanded him to exhibit his sporting license, but his only reply was firing upon them and wounding one in a dangerous manner. After a detention of three months, he was put upon trial and acquitted, and joined his brother (author of the foregoing letter) to serve the American Patriots, but having put into Havana, the rigor with which he was treated by the Spanish governor, appears to have deprived him of his reason.—*From the Journal de Paris, July 6.*

Fire.—Two valuable Cotton Manufactories were consumed by fire in the village of Pawtucket, on Saturday afternoon last. The fire originated in the picker (either by friction or collision) in the three-story factory belonging to Messrs Timothy Green & Sons, and spread so rapidly, that the work-people with difficulty escaped from their several apartments, and a very small part of the machinery, cotton, and manufactured goods was saved. The fire, with almost the rapidity of lightning, spread to the adjoining four-story stone factory, belonging to A. & I. Wilkinson, and in a moment the interior was filled with a solid sheet of fire. But little of the machinery or other property was saved. A small building occupied as a grocery store, and owned by Mr Daniel Greene, was torn down to prevent the spreading of the fire. The amount of property destroyed belonging to Messrs Green & Sons, is estimated at from 20 to $25,000; 10,000 of which is insured. The loss of A. & I. Wilkinson is estimated at $30,000.

A profitable Cow.—A cow in West Bradford, in the last week of July, produced 111 quarts of skimmed milk, and 37 quarts of cream, which made 15 lbs. 11 oz. of butter. This was a profitable cow, although she cost her owner twelve quarts of Indian meal per week. It seems she gave more than 21 quarts of milk per day, which is considerably more than Mr. Patchen's big cow at Brooklyn ever yielded. Yet, after all, we citizens surpass all the world in this particular as well as in almost every other. I have heard of an honest milkman who had the art of obtaining double the number of quarts, and with less waste of time and fodder, from one of our old city pumps!

New York paper.

A person in South Carolina raised the past season 800 bushels of sweet potatoes on an acre, by placing the vines snugly in their beds, an inch apart. The same person had one potatoe 3 feet 9 inches long, and another which weighed 12 1-4 pounds.

Agriculture in New Hampshire.—The committee of the Agricultural Society of the County of Hillsborough, N. H. appointed to award premiums on agricultural products and farms, completed their tour on the 6th inst. having travelled a hundred and eighty miles, and visited forty-six farms. In a short notice of their tour, which they have published in the Amherst Cabinet, they say, "they are happy to announce the flourishing condition of agriculture through the county; and the abundance, which a Munificent Providence this year pours into the lap of industry. The products of grass and small grains are in great profusion. Indian corn will require several warm weeks to bring it to maturity."

Gold.—A letter from Curacoa of July 22, mentions that upwards of $150,000 in value of pure virgin gold, 24 carats have been received from Aruba, where the existence of gold has recently been discovered. The Dutch government has taken measures to secure the exclusive benefit of the discovery.

Charles Thompson, Secretary of the Revolutionary Congress.—This venerable patriot has lately paid the debt of nature, at his seat near Philadelphia, in the 95th year of his age. His public services, and private virtues had justly rendered him dear to every intelligent and patriotic American.

Yellow Fever at Charleston.—One death has been published by the Health Committee, and three other cases announced in the Charleston papers of the 11th inst. which also contains the advice of the physicians for strangers to leave the city. Several deaths from the same disorder have also taken place at New Orleans.

The Phi Beta Kappa.—The annual exhibition of this Society was held in Cambridge yesterday. Besides the members of the Society, a very numerous audience, including Gen. La Fayette and the gentlemen who accompany him on his visit, together with several other distinguished strangers and many gentlemen of distinction and accomplished ladies of our own vicinity, were highly entertained by a poem on *Liberty*, by the Rev. HENRY WARE, jr. and an oration on the motives to intellectual exertion in this country, by Rev. Professor EVERETT. After the literary exercises, about two hundred members of the Society, together with their guests, among whom were Gen. La Fayette, Mr Duponceau, of Philadelphia, and the late Gov. Brooks sat down to a frugal dinner in the Commons Hall, at which Judge Story, the president of the Society, presided. The exercises of this occasion were highly enlivened by a great variety of excellent toasts, from the chair, from the guests, and from the members, some of which we shall hereafter present to our readers.—*Boston Daily Adv.*

NEW ENGLAND MUSEUM.

76, *COURT STREET, BOSTON*,

CONTAINING much more numerous Collections and greater variety of entertainments than any other Establishment in America, continues steadily to increase, and is open for the reception of visiters

EVERY DAY AND EVENING.

It will be constantly in the best possible condition, and every exertion made to render the visits of its patrons agreeable.

This Establishment now contains FIVE former Museums united in ONE, together with very great and numerous additions (the whole receipts being faithfully laid out to increase it.)

JUST ADDED,

The celebrated Race Horse Eclipse,

A beautiful Cosmoramic View of London,

A large and beautiful live Rattlesnake,

The Arabian Bottle, made of the stomach of a Camel—holds about a barrel—used to carry water across the desert.

The Invalid's Chair—very ingenious—invented by Professor Peck.

A very large and elegant Sword Fish, upwards of 14 feet long, with a sword 4 1-2 feet long.

☞ The Museum is well lighted, and a Band of Music performs every evening. Admittance 25 cents.

PRICES OF COUNTRY PRODUCE, &c.

[Revised and corrected every Friday.]

		FROM D. C.	TO D. C.
APPLES, best, new,	bbl.	3 00	
ASHES, pot, 1st sort,	ton.	120	
pearl do.		120	122 50
BEANS, white,	bush	80	1 00
BEEF, mess, 200 lbs.	bbl.	11	
cargo, No 1,		8	9
" No 2,		6 75	7 50
BUTTER, inspect. No. 1. new,	lb.	11	12
CHEESE, new milk,		7	9
skimed milk,		3	4
FLAX		8	9
FLAX SEED	bush	82	84
FLOUR, Baltimore, Howard St	bbl.	6 37	6 50
Genessee,		5 75	
Rye, best,		2 62	2 75
GRAIN, Rye	bush	52	54
Corn		40	52
Barley			
Oats		30	
HOGS' LARD, 1st sort	lb.	11	12
HOPS, No 1, Inspection of 182 3		38	40
LIME,	cask	85	1 00
OIL, Linseed, Phil. and Northern	gal.	75	80
PLAISTER PARIS	ton.	3	
PORK, Bone Middlings	bbl.	16 00	17
navy, mess,		13	13 50
Cargo, No 1,		12 50	13
SEEDS, Herd'sGrass, 1823,	bush	1 75	
Clover		5	7
WOOL, Merino, full blood, wash		60	70
do do unwashed		40	45
do 3-4 washed		45	50
do 1-2 do		37	42
Native do		25	30
Pulled, Lamb's, 1st sort		48	52
do Spinning, 1st sort		35	40
PROVISION MARKET.			
BEEF, best pieces	lb.	7	10
PORK, fresh, best pieces,		8	12
" whole		6	
VEAL,		4	10
MUTTON,		3	12
POULTRY,		10	20
BUTTER, keg & tub, new,		12	15
lump,		16	20
EGGS,		14	16
MEAL, Rye, retail,	bush	62	65
Indian, do.		58	60
POTATOES, new,		50	67
CIDER, liquor, new	bbl.		
HAY, according to quality,	ton.	16 00	20 00

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

LA FAYETTE.

Welcome to our land, FAYETTE!
Where the sun of slavery's set,
Hail to Freedom's sacred home
Where no proud invaders come,
Where no kingly tyrant rules
O'er fawning courtiers, flattering fools!
Freedom's champion! welcome, here,
To the hearts of Freemen dear!
Freedom's champion! hail, all hail!
Echoes from each hill and vale.

Years may pass—(and as all must)
Kings may mix with kindred dust—
Despots rule, and slaves obey,
Cowering to oppression's sway;
Still Columbians, brave and free
Will "rally round their Liberty"—
Still support their country's cause,
Equal rights and equal laws,
While LA FAYETTE, thy spotless name
Pealing from the trump of Fame,
Shall with our acclamations rise
On glory's pinions to the skies.

MORTIMER.

Boston, Aug. 24, 1824.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

LINES

On seeing the Monument erected at Bunker's Hill, "to the memory of WARREN *and his brave Associates."*

Shades of the brave! in tranquillity rest,
For the "battle's commotion" is o'er
The just cause of Freedom by Heaven is blest
And tyrants have fled from our shore
No more by the clangor of arms,
Or by ruthless invaders assail'd;
We repose now in peace from the war's dread alarms,
For freedom, fair freedom prevail'd.

Earth's blessings are scatter'd around,
With a free and beneficent hand,
And Heaven's bright courts with the echo resound,
Whilst the glad thanks of millions ascend.
Then rest 'mid the honour and fame,
By your deeds o'er your memory cast,
And glory's bright halo encircle each name
Whilst American Freedom shall last.

MORTIMER.

Boston, 1824.

Miscellany.

FAMILY GOVERNMENT.

Passing the house of a neighbour, in one of my evening excursions, I heard a great noise and tumult, and seating myself to learn the cause and issue of the event, soon understood that some unlucky chap, in imitation of his father's example, had been into the garden with his little hoe, but unfortunately not being able distinguish noxious weeds from useful plants, had unwittingly destroyed one or two vines—a mighty offence considering the unpromising appearance of the season. Strict inquiry was now made to discover the rogue—but all denied the deed, till a little boy, about four years of age, innocent of any evil design, and ignorant of the art of dissimulation, came forward and owned the fact. Noble boy, said I to myself, your harmless intentions and free confession, will surely not only screen you from punishment, but entitle you to commendation. But what was my surprise when the mother, void of all humanity—void of those peculiar traits so becoming in the female character—void even of maternal affection, with the mad fury of a dæmon, flew to the helpless child and beat him most unmercifully; at the same time accompanying every blow with such threats and imprecations as almost chilled my blood to hear.

Blind and misguided parents, said I, little do you consider how much evil you have done without effecting any good. It will readily be granted, by every candid person, that no real good can be expected to result from so improper a manner of correcting. I am far from believing that a child treated in this manner will be deterred from committing even that which it knows to be wrong, whenever he has any temptation for so doing. But the evils resulting from so ill-timed and improper a chastisement are numerous.

First, It confounds in the minds of children the ideas of right and wrong, and the difference between accidental and intended mischief.

Second, they are taught, by the example of a parent, to fly into a passion at every trifling occurrence which is not agreeable to their testy humours. They learn to exercise the baneful passions of malice, revenge and cruelty, among their playmates.

Third, they are taught to pay little or no regard to the judgement or authority of their parents. They will not consider their punishment as the desert of their crimes, but the effects of hasty and petulent temper in those who correct them.

I afterwards understood, that this accident happened upon the Sabbath, but not a word was uttered by the parents, intimating the offence as aggravated by this circumstance: the child is thereby taught a total disregard of the Sabbath, and contempt for the laws of God. But this is not all, this child is likewise taught to lie; a practice too easily learned without the aid of an instructor. What will induce a child to confess that for which he is sure of being punished? I know of no motives which will prompt older people to do this, but a full and practical belief of their accountability, a principle which seldom actuates the conduct of children.

So I returned and said in mine heart—this also is a sore evil, and the great vexation of our age—that there is so little judgment, reason or religion, exercised in the education of children. The little master, for breaking a pane of glass, letting fall a tea-cup, or ignorantly destroying a favorite tree or flower, is, in a moment of rage, beaten without mercy; while at the same time, perhaps, he is permitted, with scarcely a rebuke, to indulge anger, malice, and revenge, towards his little brothers and sisters; to deceive and prevaricate; to rob his neighbors' orchards and gardens; and make use of the most uncivil, obscene, and profane language. The truth is this, they treat their children like a dog for accidentally destroying a few pence of their property, while they let pass unnoticed the far more destructive and pernicious evils of the heart.

[*Vermont Journal.*

During the reign of Cromwell, a Clergyman during his service, took occasion to pray "that the king and parliament might *hang together* in peace and *concord*." A sailor present jumped up, and exclaimed, "that's right; only *hang them*, I dont care by what cord it is."

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

Suspicion.—Many persons are too subtle and too suspicious for their own enjoyment. They apt to put some sinister construction on every look, word or action of their acquaintance. Remarks made, or actions performed, of a perfectly innocent nature, are thought by the jealous or suspicious person to be intended for something of a cutting or sarcastic nature. Make this a rule, never to take offence unless you are sure offence is intended; and even intentional offence is, generally speaking, better overlooked than resented.

Talents misapplied.—There can be no greater injury to human society than that great talents should be held honourable without regard to their application. The gifts of nature, and the acquisitions of art should be held in esteem only in proportion to their tendency to promote the welfare of mankind, and their application to useful purposes. No man should, by any stretch of courtesy, be accounted as a *great* man unless he is a *good* man, and goodness should ever be esteemed the principal ingredient of greatness.

☞ *Subscribers to the Farmer, are informed that they can have their volumes bound on reasonable terms by leaving them at this Office.*

LANDS FOR SALE IN PENNSYLVANIA.

THE subscriber offers for sale in small lots to actual settlers, or in larger tracts to others, the following lands in the State of Pennsylvania, belonging to the estate of the late Wm. Bingham, viz: *two hundred and fifty thousand acres* in the counties of Bradford and Tioga, at from *three dollars*, to *two dollars fifty cents* per acre, according to situation; and *five hundred thousand acres* in the counties of Potter, McKean, Venango, Armstrong, Jefferson and Lycoming, at *two dollars* per acre. The terms are ten years for payments, three of them without interest. The land is generally of a good quality, well watered, intersected by important roads, and in a healthy situation. For further particulars application may be made to agents in the different counties, or to

ROBERT H. ROSE,
July 24. *Silver Lake, Pennsylvania.*

WANTED No. 51, of the 1st Vol. of the N. E. Farmer. For which a generous price will be given by the publisher of this paper.

TO PRINTERS.

FOR sale at this Office BALL SKINS, at the usual prices.

MR. GROVE'S *Essay on Sheep*, in a pamphlet form for sale at this Office. July 10.

TERMS OF THE FARMER.

☞ Published every Saturday, at THREE DOLLARS per annum, payable at the end of the year—but those who pay within *sixty days* from the time of subscribing will be entitled to a deduction of FIFTY CENTS.

☞ No paper will be discontinued (unless at the discretion of the publisher,) until arrearages are paid.

JOB PRINTING

Executed with neatness and despatch, on reasonable terms at this Office.